licensing, simplification of procedures for export, activation of Board of Trade, bilateral discussions with select countries, interaction with national organisations of trade and industry, etc.

[*English*]

Revenue Earned by selling Real Estates

4943. SHRI JANGBIR SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the revenue earned by the Government by selling real estates in Bombay acquired under the Chapter XXA of the Income Tax act, 1961 during the last six months; and

(b) the criteria adopted by the Government for selling the real estate in the Metropolitan cities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) There has been no such sale during this period

(b) Provision of Chapter XXC of the Income-Tax Act provide for purchase by Central Government of Immovable properties in certain cases of transfer. The properties so purchased are disposed of by the sale in public auctions after fixing reserve price.

Allocation of Funds for Textile Mills

4944. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been sharp reduction in budgetary allocation of funds for the textile mills during 1992-93;

(b) whether due to reduction in allocation of funds most of the textile mills are likely to be closed during the period;

(c) whether the Government have received any representations against such proposed action from various quarters including trade unions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTERY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (d). Budgetary proposals indicate a decline in the proposed allocations of funds for the year 1992-93 for the NTC and BIC Mills. It is difficult to predict the impact there of keeping in view vanous changes in economic policies. Certain representations regarding reduced allocation have been received asking for higher allocations from labour representatives.

[*Translation*]

Export of Molasses

4945 SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL: Will the MINISTER OF COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of molasses exported during each of the last two years and the current year;

(b) the reasons for its export; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to minmise the export?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALAMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c). The export of Molasses during the last two years and that during the current year are as follows:-

Qty: 000 Tonnes
Value: Rs. Crores

Year	*Qty.*	*Value*
1989-90	265	17 41
1990-91	230	21.84
1991-92 (April-Feb.)	303	37.21

As Molasses fetch higher price in the international market, the same is being exported. There is no restriction on the export of value added products of Molasses by exporters if they are able to get sufficient orders for the same.

[English]

Export of Low Value Added Items

4946. DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO. Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether the export of low value added items has increased in comparison to high value added items during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to encourage export of high value added items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHINDAMBARAM): (a) according to the provisional estimates, the export of primary productions (Agriculture, Plantations and Ores and Minerals) amounted to Rs 5740 crores during April-December 1991 as compared to Rs. 4274 crores during April-December 1990, thereby registering an increase of 34.3% The export of manufactures amounted to Rs. 24592 crores during April-December 1991 as compared to Rs. 18915 crores during April-December 1990, thereby registering a growth of 30\5 However, it needs to be mentioned that the primary products (plantations, Agriculture and Ores and Minerals) accounted for about 13% of our total exports while manufactures accounted for 81% of our total exports.

(b) The reasons for a relatively higher growth in primary products in relations to manufactured products include slow-down in global trade and recession in advanced countries which could have affected our manufactured exports adversely as also seasonal factors, wherein the exports of agricultural products are higher in certain seasons.

(c) Several changes in trade policy were introduced in July/August, 1991, aimed at strengthening export incentives, eliminating a substantial volume of import licensing and optimal import compression. Barring essential imports of sensitive items like POI, fertilizers etc., all other imports of raw materials and components were linked to export performance. REP licences were replaced by Eximsorips. The advance licences as an instrument of export promotion has been strengthened, by reducing discretionary controls and delays The procedure for import of capital goods has been strengthened. the EPZ and 100% EOU Schemes have been revamped. A number of export and import items have been decanalised. Exporters have been allowed to open foreign currency counts in approved banks and to raise external credits, pay for export related imports from such accounts and credit export procededs to such accounts. These steps have been further strengthened by the partial convertibility of Rupee and reduction in import tariff rates Besides, the Government has taken other steps which include reducing controls through licensing, simplification of procedures for export, activation of Board of Trade, bilateral discussions with select countries, interaction with national organisations of Trade and Indiustry, letc.

American Ferigate Ships

4947. DR. RAJAGOPALAN SRIDHARAN: Will the MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any American frigate ships forming part of the Seventh fleet had been